1	2	3	4	5	6	7
(iii) Projects sanctioned during 2001-2002						
1	Nellore	Andhra Pradesh	4000.00	3740.000	1122.00	238.82
2	Durg	Chhattisgarh	4000.00	3740.000	1122.00	130.59
3	Ri-Bhoi	Meghalaya	975.11	907.010	272.10	114.272
4	Ganjam	Orissa	4000.00	3740.000	1122.00	278.49
5	Rajsamand	Rajasthan	4000.00	3740.000	1122.00	12.44184
6	Haridwar	Uttaranchal	4000.00	3740.000	1122.00	13.39
	Sub Total :		20975.11	19.607.01	5882.10	788.00
(iv) Projects sanctioned during 2002-2003						
1	Guntur	Andhra Pradesh	4000.00	3740.000	1122.00	10.31
2	East Godavari	Andhra Pradesh	4000.00	3740.000	374.00	22.41
3	Kancheepura	Tamil Nadu	4000.00	3740.000	374.00	0.00
4	Virudhunagar	Tamil Nadu	4000.00	3740.000	374.00	0.00
	Sub Total :		16000.00	14960.00	2244.00	32.72
67	Grand Total :		206045.21	192285.28	63166.86	24497.86

Provision of fluoride free drinking water

900. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to high fluoride content drinking water, many States are not in a position to provide potable drinking water;

(b) if so, steps Government propose to take to provide pure drinking water to all citizens in the country and the approximate amount required for the purpose and the details thereof; and

(c) the details of persons affected due to consumption of high fluoride water in the State of Karnataka for the past three years and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) to (c) According

to the Water Quality Survey conducted on 14.1.99, there are 36988 habitations reported to have been affected by the presence of excess fluoride in their drinking water sources.

Rural drinking water supply is a State subject. State Governments take up schemes/projects for providing drinking water in rural areas. Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Government and provide financial assistance under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). Under ARWSP, upto 15% of the allotted funds can be utilized to tackle water quality problems.

The strategy evolved to ensure provision of safe water supply in rural habitations include:

(i) Replacement of contaminated spot source by a new one at appropriate location;

(ii) Mini Piped Water Supply Scheme based on problem free deep tubewell;

(iii) Surface water based piped water supply scheme; and

(iv) Treatment of quality problems through suitable removal unit. Besides advocacy of dual water supply system in endemic quality habitations by providing potable water for drinking and cooking and marginal quality water for other domestic purposes is also a part of the strategy to ensure safe drinking water.

Government of India had been sanctioning projects under Sub-Mission Programme for providing safe drinking water free from brackishness, fluorides, excess iron etc. till 1998. Since then, powers to approve and implement Sub-Mission projects have been delegated to the State Governments. State Governments have repeatedly been requested to sanction more and more such projects to provide safe drinking water to rural habitations.

As reported by the State Government, about 5838 habitations in 27 districts of the States have fluoride contamination in drinking water affecting the inhabitants. The survey conducted in July, 2000 in Nidasoshi village and another survey conducted in Keerunayaka Thanda village of

Gulbarga district in 2002 have shown 7 and 18 persons affected by skeltal fluorosis respectively. This disability cannot be solely attributed to fluoride content in drinking water alone. As and when situation arises a health survey is conducted.

Sanction of Rs. 20 crores to Uttaranchal under Sector Reform Project for Rural Roads

†901. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during his stay at Nainital, Hon'ble Prime Minister had made an announcement to sanction Rs. 20 crores under 'Sector Reform Project of Rural Roads' for rural development;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a proposal of Rs. 20 crores for sector reforms project for rural roads has been forwarded to the Ministry by Uttaranchal Government;

(c) if so, whether the above mentioned amount of Rs. 20 crores have been provided to Uttaranchal Government as announced by Hon'ble Prime Minister; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay and by when the hindrances would be removed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI U.V. KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) and (b) An announcement for providing Rs. 20 crore for rural roads under the PMGSY had been made by the Hon'ble Prime Minister at Nainital in March, 2002.

(c) and (d) Project proposals for Rs. 10.01 crore pertaining to Chamoli, Rudraprayag and Nainital districts had been cleared in April, 2002 in the light of the announcement made by the Hon'ble Prime Minister. In November, 2002, additional projects proposals for Rs. 14.69 crore pertaining to Almora, Uttarkashi and Chamoli districts have been cleared, in principle, subject to their being within the purview of the PMGSY guidelines.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.